## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE:	§	<b>CASE NO. 25-30155</b>
	§	
ALLIANCE FARM AND RANCH, LLC	§	
	§	
	§	(CHAPTER 11)
DERTOR.	8	

## DEBTOR'S REPLY TO THE OSTRANDERS' POST-HEARING BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS

## TO THE HONORABLE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE:

Alliance Farm and Ranch, LLC (the "Debtor") files this *Reply to the Ostranders' Post-Hearing Brief in Support of Motion to Dismiss*, and in support hereof, respectfully states as follows:

- 1. The Debtor files this reply to correct misstatements in the Ostranders' brief. First, the Ostranders continue to assert that the Debtor has only one asset the real property. This is incorrect. The Debtor has a valuable cause of action against the Ostranders. Further, it is apparent from evidence presented at the hearing that the Ostranders failed to property foreclose on the Debtor's personal property<sup>1</sup>, valued at \$231,532.00 on the Debtor's schedules. Further, since the Ostranders have been, or will be, made whole by the foreclosure and sale of the real property, it is likely that the personal property will be unencumbered.
- 2. The Ostranders claim that the Debtor "currently has no employees and had no employees in 2024." This assertion is misleading. Jerod Furr testified that the Debtor operated the ranch in 2024, that the business generated income, and that the Debtor utilized contract labor.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Debtor has been unable to locate any documents that granted the Ostranders a perfected security interest in the personal property.

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3. The Ostranders wholly ignore the benefit that will inure to the Debtor's largest

unsecured creditor, Alliance Energy Partners, LLC. ("AEP"), from the continued prosecution of

this case. AEP has over \$2 million in non-insider unsecured creditors that stand to gain from this

case.

4. "Courts can determine good faith only on an ad hoc basis and must decide whether

the petitioner has abused the provisions, purpose, or spirit of bankruptcy law." In re Tamecki, 229

F.3d 205, 207 (3d Cir. 2000). There is no such evidence before the Court. Further, "it is quite

common and not inappropriate for a debtor to use chapter 11 to obtain a respite from a creditor or

creditors aggressively seeking to collect on a debt, even when execution is imminent, provided

that financial rehabilitation is possible." *In re McStay*, 82 B.R. 763, 768 (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 1988).

The Debtor has presented ample evidence that it can formulate a plan that will provide a

meaningful payment to its creditors, and by extension, the creditors of AEP.

WHEREFORE, the Debtor respectfully prays that this Court grant the Application; and

grant the Debtor such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: April 16, 2025.

OKIN ADAMS BARTLETT CURRY LLP

By: /s/ Timothy L. Wentworth

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on April 16, 2025, a true and correct copy of the foregoing Reply was served via the Court's CM/ECF system and by United States First Class Mail to the parties listed on the attached service lists.

By: <u>/s/ Timothy L. Wentworth</u> Timothy L. Wentworth

Case 25-30155 Document 52 Filed in TXSB on 04/16/25 Page 4 of 4 ALLIANCE FARM AND RANCH, LLC Label Matrix for local noticing

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The following recipients may be/have been bypassed for notice due to an undeliverable (u) or duplicate (d) address.

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